

U. H. J. St. Mary's County at A place called Seymour Town, Ordered they be severally thus Endors'd viz.

By the Upper House of Assembly October the 22<sup>d</sup> 1728  
Read the second time and will pass.

Signed ꝑ Order Geo Plater Cl Up Ho.

Which Bills so severally endorst are sent down to the Lower House by Benjamin Tasker Esq<sup>r</sup>

A Message from the Lower House by John Beale Esq<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Philip Key viz.

By the Lower House of Assembly October the 22<sup>d</sup> 1728  
May it please your Honours.

In answer to your message by John Hall Esq<sup>r</sup> of the 21<sup>st</sup> Instant wherein you Observe that for some years past you have been denied any Allowance as A Council of State Although you conceive you have an Undoubted right thereto and your Determination not to admit any Abatement of your present Allowance unless you be allowed as A Council of State upon which it seems your Honours wou'd vouchsafe to agree to an Abatement in the same proportion with this House is indeed an extraordinary Proposal and tends much to ease the People of the Heavy Burthen they bear if you were allowed 150 Pounds of Tobacco ꝑ diem as a Council of State for as great or perhaps greater number of days than you attend as an Upper House (To which Allowance we conceive you have no manner of right in the manner you claim it) your Honours would Condescend to abate 40 or 50 pounds of Tobacco ꝑ diem during such your Attendance

As to the other part of your message wherein you propose to serve the Country at your own Expencc if we would do so too, we Observe that our Allowance is Established by a Law of the Country which is wanting to support your Claim as a Council of State and altho our Circumstances will not admit of our serving the Country at our own Expencc (nor do the People we represent desire it) we are willing to Reduce our present Allowances to what may be necessary for that end which we conceive to be very just and Reasonable & if your Honours are so very tenacious of your  
p. 358 own Allowances as not to agree to any Abatement of them but upon terms so very advantageous to yourselves as you propose which we cannot in justice to those we represent agree to or so prejudicial and unjust with regard to ourselves (which we take to have been proposed purely to bring an odium upon us, and we are confident will fail of its design'd Effect) we have only to acquaint your Hon-